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Date: November 9, 2011

To: SC Public Service Commission Hearing at the Greenville County Council Office

Re: "Just Say No" to the Rate Hike Request by Duke Energy

To Whom It May Concern:

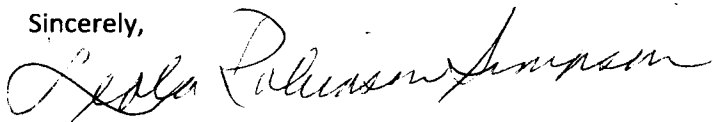
On behalf of thousands of struggling students and parents in Greenville County, I am urging you to **"Just Say No"** to Duke Energy's insensitive request for any future rate hike increase. We feel that Duke Energy's healthy profits should be used to cover any costs for improvements and growth - not Duke Energy's struggling consumers, in this tight economy.

The rising cost of utilities, especially from Duke Energy, has negatively impacted families. When power is shut-off for non-payment, children suffer. Homes are dark and there is no light for studying. Homes are cold and there is no source of heat. The extra cost of rate increases must come from somewhere. Families will be forced to subtract the added rate hike cost from funds that could have been spent on food and medicines.

1. We are asking you to tap Duke Energy profits-not people for the funds Duke Energy needs.
2. We are asking you to institute changes in Duke Energy's public policies that will offer energy adjustments rates for the documented poor and elderly, so the lack of energy does not become a death sentence, when power is shut off for non-payment during winter's cold, or summer's heat waves.
3. We are asking Duke Energy to provide assistance to the poor in obtaining energy efficient appliances, and other efficiencies; with the cost being added in small increments to the monthly bill to be repaid over time, so the poor and elderly who cannot afford energy efficiencies will not be penalized and forced to pay more.

Thank you for your humane attention to this urgent plea.

Sincerely,



Leola Robinson-Simpson

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MAIL / DMS